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than just a Foraging Territory if we are to get a true picture of their ecological relationships. It would also appear that this three dimensional treatment is chiefly necessary for ants which attend Aphides and therefore tend to climb trees and tall plants. The harvesting ants of the genus *Messor* in particular would appear to keep close to the ground, at least the few inches that they do climb to cut off inflorescences from the grasses, etc., are negligible when compared with the great horizontal distance travelled.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

I wish to thank Mr H. St. J. K. Donisthorpe for kindly identifying the ants for me.

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A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF ANT FROM NEW BRITAIN.

By HORACE DONISTHORPE, F.Z.S., F.R.E.S., etc.

SUBFAMILY *Myrmicianae*.

TRIBE *Tetramoriini*.

GENUS *Dorothea*, Gen. n.

Head subrectangular; *clypeus* prolonged between the frontal carinae, posterior ridge of same bordering the antennal foveae; no carina on *cheeks*; no *scrobe* present; *frontal carinae* not very short, nor close together; *antennae* 12-jointed, club 3-jointed; *maxillary palpi* jointed; *labial palpi* jointed. *Thomax* impressed at *meso-epinotal* suture; *epinotum* unarmed. No *spurs* to posterior pairs of tibiae.

Dorothea novobritainae, Sp. n.

Black to blackish-brown, shining; mandibles, scapes, articulations of legs reddish, funiculi and tarsi reddish-yellow. Clothed with longer and shorter fine yellow hairs. *Head* subrectangular, longer than broad, slightly broader anteriorly than posteriorly, posterior angles bluntly pointed, posterior border slightly excised, anterior portion of head finely longitudinally striate, vertex smooth and shining with a few very small scattered punctures; *mandibles* large, triangular, bluntly pointed at apex, masticatory border not armed; *clypeus* convex with anterior border rounded in middle, sinuate at sides, posterior border projecting

between the frontal carinae and with sides forming a ridge bordering the antennal foveae; *frontal area* deep rounded behind; *frontal furrow* short, smooth, not very narrow; *frontal carinae* slightly divergent behind; *eyes* fairly large, oval, flat, situated about the middle of sides of head; *antennae* 12-jointed, *scape* curved reaching end of longitudinal striae on head, *funiculus* gradually thickened to apex, *club* 3-jointed, fairly large, pubescent, last joint bluntly pointed, longer than the two preceding taken together. *Thorax* very finely punctured, longer than broad, broadest at humeral angles, no suture between pro- and mesothorax, suture between meso- and epinotum impressed; *pronotum* convex, with a short neck margined anteriorly, and bluntly pointed prominent humeral angles; sides of *mesonotum* narrowed to impression between meso- and epinotum; *epinotum* with angle between dorsal surface and declivity well marked, *dorsal surface* convex, longer than declivity, *declivity* slightly concave; *meso-* and *metathorax* longitudinally striate. *Petiole* long, narrow, pedunculate, with a narrow rounded node; *post petiole* broader and slightly higher than petiole, rounded above and at sides; *gaster* oval, narrowed in front and behind, equally convex above and below, longitudinally striate at junction with post petiole. *Sting* small. Legs moderate, *femora* incrassate. No *spurs* to posterior pairs of tibiae; *claws* large, simple. Long. 4.5 mm.
Genotype *Dorothea novobritainae*, Sp. n.

Described from three workers, New Britain, Herawat, July 1946, B. A. O'Connor.

In appearance this new genus reminds one of the *Pseudomyrcinae*, but, of course, it does not belong to that subfamily.

COLLECTING NOTES.

C. CROCEUS AND N. POLYCHLOROS AT SWANAGE.—It is of interest to record that on 12th April one specimen of *C. croceus* was observed and on 13th April one *N. polychloros* in excellent condition, settled with outspread wings close to a dirty puddle at the foot of the Parbeck Hills; nearby are plenty of Elms and Sallows. *P. aegeria*, ovipositing, *G. rhamni*, *N. io*, and *A. urticae* were more numerous than usual. During the past few hot days *P. brassicae* and *P. rapae* are very much in evidence.—LEONARD TATCHELL, Rockleigh Cottage, Swanage, 19.iv.48.

ABNORMAL EMERGENCE.—I was somewhat surprised when a ♂ *Mesoleuca albicillata* hatched out in my cages yesterday—this early emergence seems to me almost phenomenal since I understand it to be normally a July insect. The specimen referred to is a cripple, and one that I bred from ova deposited by a wild ♀ captured last year. I may add that there can be no question of forcing, since there has been no artificial heat in the room in which the pupa has been kept. If you consider this observation of sufficient interest to publish in the *Entomological Record and Journal of Variation*, you are perfectly at liberty to do so.—J. M. CHALMERS-HUNT, 70 Chestnut Avenue, West Wickham, 8th April 1948.

M. STELLATARUM IN MARCH.—One specimen of *stellatarum* was visiting *Aubretia* flowers here on 1st March. On 10th March two were seen at the same time, and on several days up to the end of the month and during the first week of April single specimens visited the garden, mostly at *Aubretia* blossoms on a rockery. On each occasion one's presence was ignored at a distance of three feet.—E. BARTON WHITE, F.R.E.S., Braunton, N. Devon.

CURRENT NOTES.

DR GUSTAV DE LATTIN is a young Austrian lepidopterist, known to British entomologists for his work on the *Parnassius* of Anatolia. He has survived the war, even the Russian front, and is now back at Entomology. His subject is the Lepidoptera of the Middle East. A subscription to the *Entomologist's Record* has put him in the seventh heaven and he writes with enthusiasm for the " ray of sunshine in his spiritual isolation." For those who would care to disperse that isolation, his address is:—Dr Gustaf de Lattin, (22b) Geilweilerhof, Post Siebeldingen —Pfalz, Germany (French Zone). He would welcome correspondence, and, above all, literature concerning his subject.—M. B.

THE Annual Spring Exhibition held by the Amateur Entomologists' Society on 30th March was again a very successful and well-attended meeting. A room had been set apart for an elementary talk introducing the study of Entomology. This was illustrated with simple apparatus, apparatus that could be home-made, or easily adapted from objects obtainable in an ordinary household. Although the Society issues some most valuable pamphlets on the study and preservation of insects of other Orders, the exhibitors were Lepidopterists. Among the exhibits were the results of breeding, the captures made during the wonderful year 1947, including numerous unusual forms of immigrants, species, etc., all proving that the efforts of the officials and older members of the Society had done well and that the coming generation of Entomologists would make good when life settles down after the baneful influence of war.

PART I of Vol. IX of the *Transactions of the Society for British Entomology* contains the 2nd portion of a " List of the Lepidoptera of Dorset," by W. Parkinson Curtis, F.R.E.S. This is more than a List, for each species is introduced by notes often considerable and always useful. Since the death of Prout the Geometers have become very divergent in classification and not in accord with books or Lists in the hands of students. An Index is added of Families, Genera and Species, a very necessary addition. The Families dealt with are *Ocneriidae*, *Sterrhidae*, *Geometridae*, *Selidosemidae*, *Polyplocidae*, *Sphingidae*, and *Notodontidae*. The author has a strong belief in the use of genitalia characters in the determination of the position of many species among the *Geometridae*. The paper is a continuation of the records of the three generations of the Dale family years ago, but, of course, adapted to the advance of the present times.